FLORA'S PESTIVAL;

A Musical Recreation for Schools, Invenile Singing Classes, &c.



For the Advancement of Youth who have already acquired some Knowledge of the Elements of Music.

EDITED BY WM. B. BRADBURY.

NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED BY IVISON & PHINNEY, 321 BROADWAY. CHICAGO: S. C. GRIGGS & CO., 39 & 41 LAKE ST.







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FLORA'S FESTIVAL

Is a Cantata, consisting of choruses, original and selected, intended as a recreation for the young in schools, academies, and juvenile singing classes. Any number of singers, from twenty-five to a thousand, may constitute the chorus. Two or three hundred well-trained voices will make a very efficient chorus.

There is no "argument" or "plot" connected with Flora's Festival; it simply represents a floral holiday scene, in which the three divisions of the day, Morning, Noon, and Night, are used as governing or suggesting the character of the music, plays, scenes, etc., etc.

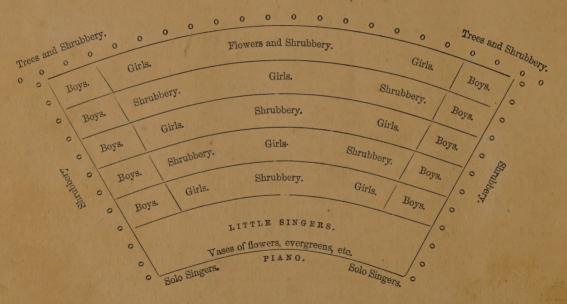
The music is pleasing, popular, and, for the most

part, not difficult. It is arranged in one, two and three parts, with accompaniments to the solos, etc.

HOW TO GET IT UP IN PUBLIC. HALL, SEATING, ETC.

When the choruses, semi-choruses, solos, etc., have been well and thoroughly learned, a commodious hall should be selected, with a platform or stage of about two feet elevation in front and gradually ascending to the rear, so that the heads of each row of singers may be visible above those in front of them, both when sitting and also when standing. The settees or benches should also be so arranged that the singers will face slightly toward the centre, making a partial semicircle thus:

CHORUS SINGERS.



CONDUCTOR.

If a good hall can not be secured, a platform might be erected at the pulpit end of a church. The teacher or conductor sits at the piano or stands to direct, facing the choir.

DECORATIONS, ETC.

The hall, or that part of it at least to be occupied by the choir, should be beautifully decorated with flowers, festoonery, shrubbery, etc., etc. It should be made to represent a little forest or fairy grotto, being careful so to construct it that the little "fays" and "fairies" are not entirely hidden from public view, yet so that when seated they are partially screened from the view of the audience. When they rise, (which they should be taught to do with perfect uniformity at a given signal), a perfect little fairy scene will present itself.

For the purposes of decoration, artificial flowers may be resorted to, constructed of tissue paper, of various colors, sizes, etc., etc. These may be made mostly by the young Misses, with a few hints, perhaps, from older heads.*

Forest trees, evergreens, a variety of shrubbery, etc., may be easily obtained, and these should be arranged with much taste, and with a view to the best natural effect. Much depends also upon the brilliancy of the lights. The arrangement of these is often attended with considerable difficulty. Effects should be tried on some evening previous to the concert. Care should be taken, also, that they are perfectly secure and safe, and sufficiently removed from any thing that will ignite.

DRESS OF THE SINGERS.

As far as practicable uniformity of dress with the chorus singers is to be sought. The young Misses should be dressed in white, with perhaps a blue sash

* From thirty to forty bushels of artificial flowers were made and contributed by the New York Floral Choir, whenever a public performance of this Festival was to be given. The choir at one time numbered upwards of one thousand singers.

about the waist, and a neat wreath of flowers on their heads. The boys may observe some uniformity in the disposition of their collar, and perhaps a rosette on the left lapel of their jacket or roundabout.

SEATING.

The singers should be seated with some reference to their height—other hints are given by the diagram.

ORDER

"Heaven's first law" should be so perfect that a tap of the bell or baton will command instant silence.

SOLOS, ETC.

The chief characteristic solo parts are-

FLORA, THE QUEEN.

THE ZEPHYR.

THE FORESTER.

THE WATER SPIRIT.

THE STORM SPIRIT.

These should be dressed appropriately to correspond with the part they represent, and according to the taste, circumstances, etc., of those most interested—in all cases, however, avoiding extravagance or unnecessary display.

Beside the above there are other solo parts, as will be seen, with occasional semi-choruses, concerted pieces, etc., which all serve to keep up an increasing interest to the end of the piece.

CROWNING OF THE QUEEN.

This is generally done by "maids of honor," four or six appointed for the purpose; the first placing the crown upon the head of the queen (who gracefully kneels or bows to receive it), and singing the first stanza of

"A rosy crown we twine for thee,"

Chorus responding-

"Take, O take the rosy crown," &c.

The second maid of honor then comes forward and sings the next stanza, etc., in this order until all the verses have been sung, the chorus responding to each singer.

PROGRAMME.

WITH EXPLANATION'S AND SUGGESTIONS.

PART I.

MORNING.

No. 1.—Opening Chorus. "Hail, Smiling Morn." This must be sung with promptness and energy throughout. Observe carefully the p. and pp. passages, also the syncopation on page 7, the rest on page 8, and the sforzando in commencing and ending.

No. 2.—"Come, Sisters, Come." A light and gentle semi-chorus of invitation; in moderate time.

Nos. 3 and 4.—Flora—Solo. A brilliant, flexi-

ble and rich voice is needed for this part; as it will be seen, there is considerable execution required. A singer, therefore, who has had some cultivation should be selected.

No. 5.—"A Rosy Crown." [Explained previously].

No. 6.—Semi-chorus of Zephyrs. Select the smallest scholars for this; teach them to sing it correctly, and let them stand where they can be seen. A neat bouquet in the hand of each would look very prettily.

No. 7.—Solo. "Come, come, pretty bird. By the First Zephyr." A little bird (stuffed) may be so placed in one of the trees as to appear quite natural. A very pretty effect may also be introduced in this song by playing upon the flute or even the piano (if flute accompaniment can not be had) the echo or response on page 17; thus she sings, "Sing for me," and is silent during the next measure, which is played upon the flute (or piano) 8va., and varied ac-

cording to the taste or skill of the performer. A skillful flutist might improvise a very neat bird-trill, she apparently listening as if the bird were responding to her.

No. 8.—Full Chorus. "Lo, the East." This should be very spirited.

No. 9.—The Forester's Song and Chorus, with symphony or introduction. A lad with a bold, firm voice should be selected for this part.

Whistling.—If the teacher has perfect control of his scholars, he may teach the boys to whistle the last part of this piece, commencing on page 21, last note of the upper brace, by means of which a very novel and amusing effect will be produced. It should not be attempted, however, unless it can be done well and with perfect order.

No. 10.—Echo Chorus. The echo voice or voices should, if practicable, be placed in an adjoining room, or under the platform, whence they will appear as if at a great distance. Practise carefully

to get the true echo effect before venturing it in public.

No. 11.—Solo and Chorus of Nyads or Water Spirits.

No. 12.—Chorus of Welcome. "Hail, all Hail!"

PART II.

NOON.

No. 13.—Opening Chorus. In "the mid-day sun," observe a full *crescendo* from the beginning to the end of the strain, on page 27.

No. 14.—"Haste to the mountain," may be sung first time by solo, and repeated in chorus, or by chorus entire.

No. 15.—"The frothy waves," chorus and solo before the storm; loud, with a pretty strong accent in the first or chorus part. The solo very sweet and

gentle. Great care should be taken in the concerted part, on page 31, where the boys commence with "Fly, sisters, fly."

No. 16.—"The storm spirit." A full and rather powerful voice is required for this solo; a singer, especially, who has some conception of the part, and can adapt her singing to it. If, during its performance, the room can conveniently be partially darkened, a good effect will be produced.

Chorus after the storm. Quiet cheerfulness is expressed by this chorus.

No. 17.—" Sigh, gentle gales," (quartette). Select four of the best voices from the older pupils as nearly equal and uniform in tone as possible.

No. 18.—"The sunbeams are glancing." Chorus of rejoicing—bold and sprightly. Observe the syncopation throughout.

No. 19.—Approaching Sunser. "The golden sun sinks in the West." Mind the rests, and ob-

serve carefully the *forte* and piano passages on page 48. Let the strain *dim*. to *pp*.

PART III.

NIGHT.

No. 20.—Opening Chorus. "Starlight is beaming." Commence very softly (pp.,) and repeat f. "Still gaily dancing," page 50, may be solo.

No. 21.—"Day is gone," (Round). Full directions attached to the piece.

No. 22.—Moonlight Chorus or semi-chorus.

No. 23.—"Away, away," chorus—very sprightly.

No. 24.—Moonlight Song and Chorus.

No. 25.—Chorus, "We've come from happy fairy land." At a given signal, or on commencing the words, "At Flora's feast of flowers," the singers may all wave their white handkerchiefs, which they should have (quietly) in readiness for that purpose-

This should be done so as to take the audience quite by surprise, and if so done, an impromptu response of a like kind will be apt to greet the singers. The waving of handkerchiefs may be reserved for the last piece if thought more desirable.

No. 26.—Finale—Double Chorus. "Good night to all." Let the boys commence and sing their part through (to the first double) alone, then recommence simultaneously with the girls.

FLORA'S FESTIVAL.

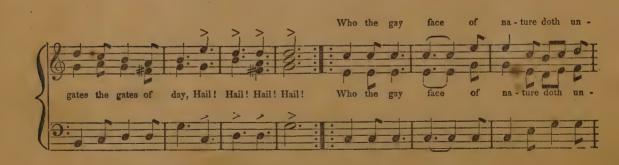
PART I. MORNING.

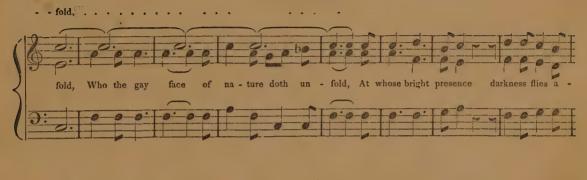
No. 1.

OPENING CHORUS.























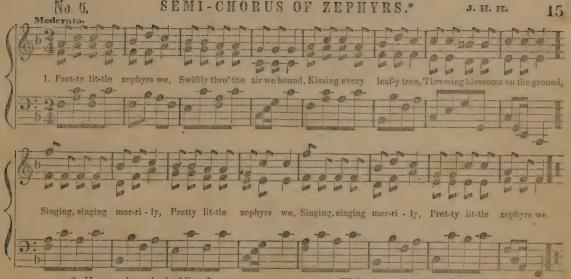










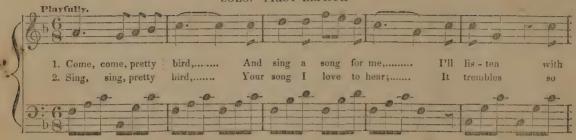


2. How we love the budding flowers. Tossing round their pretty heads. Let us play around your bowers. Breathing on your grassy beds.

3. Welcome, welcome, zephyrs light. Welcome to our feast of flowers: Smiling ever with delight, Welcome to our fairy bowers.

^{*} To be sung by small scholars, appropriately dressed.





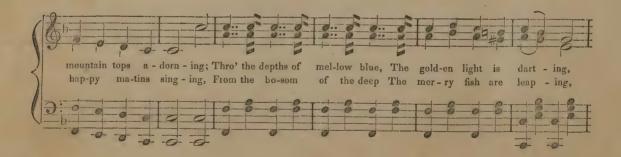










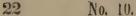






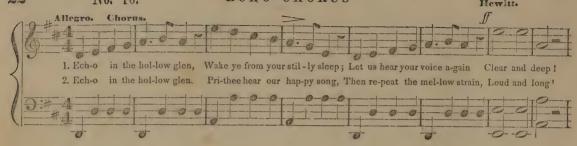




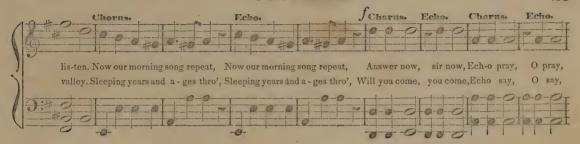


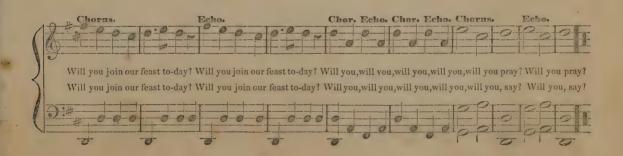
ECHO CHORUS

Hewitt.





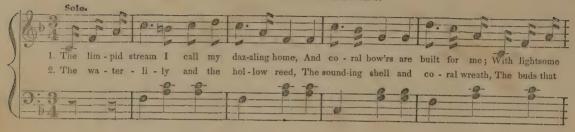




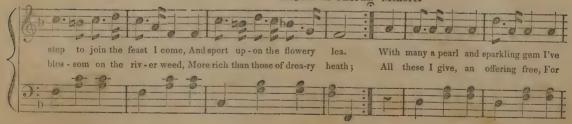
24 No. 11. "THE LIMPID STREAM I CALL MY DAZZLING HOME."

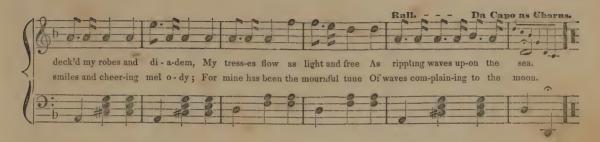
J. H. H.

SOLO AND CHORUS OF NYRIADS.



Repeat in Chorus. Minore.



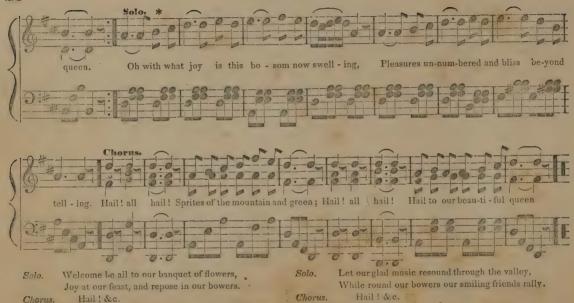


No. 12.

"HAIL, ALL HAIL!"

FINALE CHORUS AND SOLO.





* This Solo should be sung by the one personating Flora.

END OF MORNING

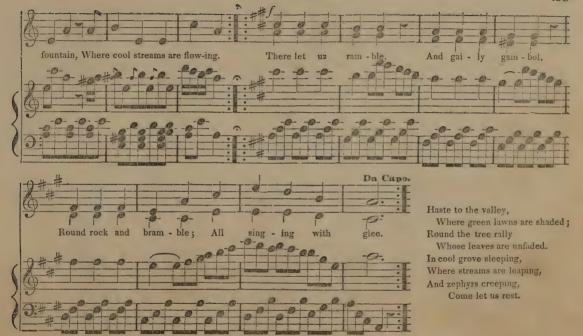
PART II. NOON

No. 13.

OPENING CHORUS.







30 No. 15. "THE FROTHY WAVES ARE ROLLING."

Rossink





" To be sung by Boys

SOLO AND CHORUS.





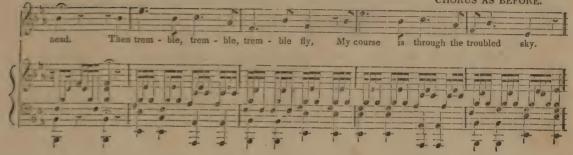
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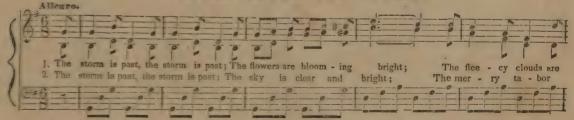




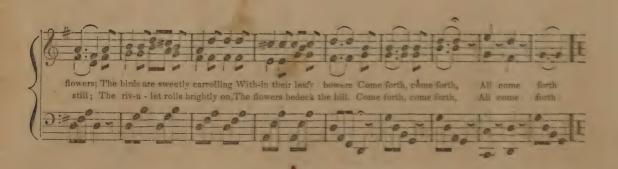




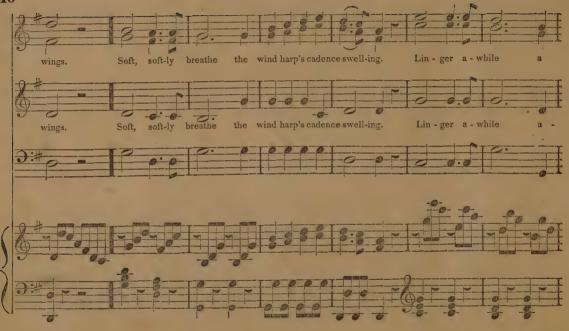
CHORUS AFTER THE STORM.













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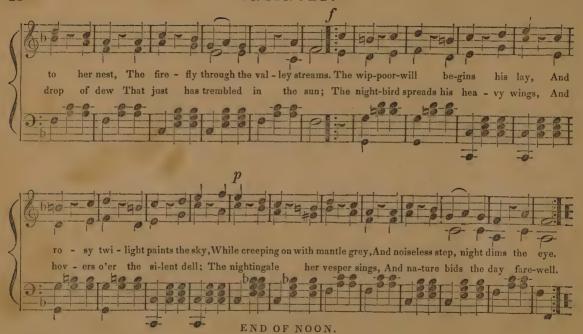












PART III. NIGHT.

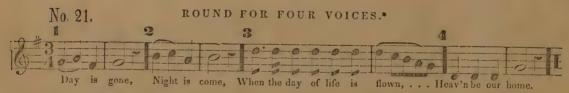
No. 20.

OPENING CHORUS.

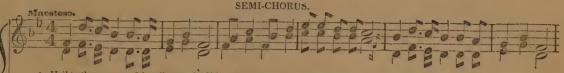




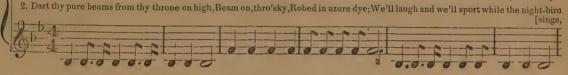
"DAY IS GONE."



^{*} To be sung as follows, viz: The first pupil sing No. 1. (See figure 1, two measures.) and then pause. The next sing No. 2, in the same manner. The third sing No. 3, and the fourth sing No. 4. When the four parts have been sung through separately, the pupil who sang No. 1, commence again, and sing the piece through. The second pupil commencing at No. 1, when the first pupil commences at No. 2, &c, &c, until all are singing together the different parts.

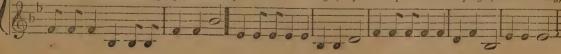


1. Hail to thee, queen of the silent night, Shine clear, shine bright, Yield thy pensive light; Blithely we'll dance in thy silver ray

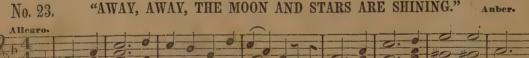


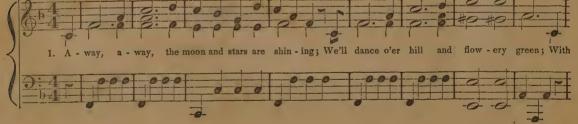


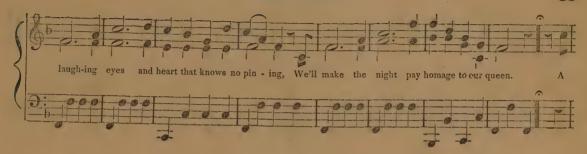
Happily passing the hours away. Must we not love the stilly night, Dress'd in her robes of blue and white? Heaven's vaults ring, Flapping the dew from his sable wings; Sprites love to sport in the still moonlight, Play with the pearls of shadowy night; Then let us sing,

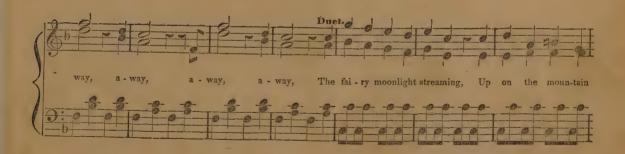










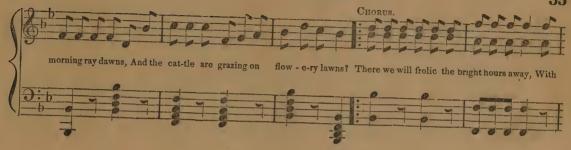


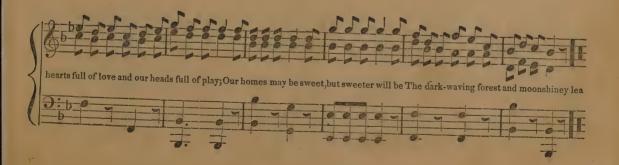


No. 24.

MOONLIGHT SONG AND CHORUS.





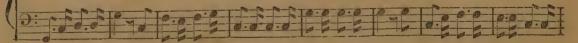






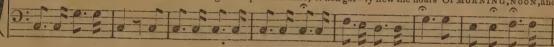


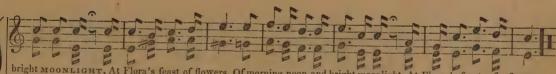
roam'd from flow'r to flow'r, We've danced and sung the jocund song Upon the forest green, And nought but mirth and jol-i-ty, Apperfume breathed of May, And here we've heard the cuckoo's note Steal softly thro'the air, While ever scene around us look'd Most hap - pi-ness as we; And now to home we turn our thoughts, Our happy home afar; You see it twinkling, twinkling there, Be



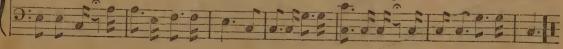


round us has been seen, And thus we've pass'd the pleasant time, Nor tho't how flew the hours Of Morning, noon, and beau - ti - ful and fair, And thus we've pass'd the pleasant time, Nor tho't how flew the hours Of Morning, noon, and yond that brightest star! But we'll ne'er forget this pleasant time, When gai - ly flew the hours Of Morning, noon, and

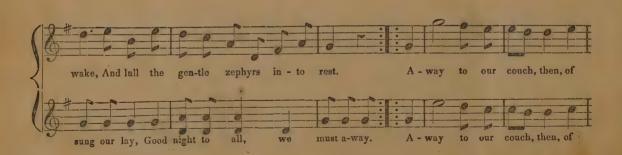


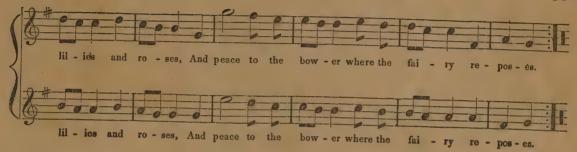


bright MOONLIGHT, At Flora's feast of flowers, Of morning, noon, and bright moonlight, At Flora's feast of flowers, of morning, noon, and bright moonlight, At Flora's feast of flowers, bright MOONLIGHT, At Flora's feast of flowers, Of morning, noon, and bright moonlight, At Flora's feast of flowers.









2. The midnight elfins stalk along, And wonder at the blitheness of our lay, The stilly glens send back our song, And bid each fairy haste to come away. Away to our couch, &c.

END OF FLORA'S FESTIVAL.

GONTENTS.

	Page		Page
A Rosy Crown we twine for thee	14	Morning	
Away, away, the Moon and Stars		Noon	27
Come, sisters, come		Night	49
Come from the Glen		Semi-chorus of Zephyrs	
Come, come, pretty Bird		Sigh, gentle Gales	39
Chorus after the Storm		Starlight is streaming	49
Day is gone		The Forest-song awake	20
Echo Chorus		The limpid Stream	24
Flora		The mid-day Sun is pouring	27
Hail, smiling Morn		The frothy Waves are rolling	30
Hail, all hail		The Storm-spirit	32
Haste to the Mountain		The Sunbeams are glancing	45
Lo! the East with saffron tints		The golden Sun	47
Moonlight		The Moonlight dances	
Moonlight Song and Chorus		We've come from happy Fairy-land	

Freeze whispered one of on evering an heavens sate terme Myan It Amoul Lawet Dansel & houry your Men who said to the states marken Hear the little white angel may at the decarding gate again resistance of high to an above thertown a hithe de worden of all of a sien Sol was harde the portal the hear that gale you The of the golden Bar you do connector brewing all the day The gate! " angel



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